

News Release

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For Release: <u>Immediate 5 Oct 99</u> Phone: <u>(817) 978-2196</u>

Army Corps of Engineers sign environmental document on Lewisville Lake

The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, announced today the signing of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), a National Environmental Policy Act document, for approximately 270 proposed activities at Lewisville Lake. The activities were included in a recently completed Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) and can now be included in the Lewisville Lake Master Plan for possible implementation.

The signing of the FONSI allows the Corps to supplement its master plan by incorporating the results of the Lewisville Lake Future Water-Related Development Study and subsequent policy. Specifically, the policy sets a target carrying capacity for boats by regulating future development and location of additional marina and boat ramp facilities on federal lands.

The FONSI did not however address approximately 30 proposed activities that needed additional environmental and/or administrative action. In particular were activities such as marinas, boat ramps and boat ramp parking spaces that if completely developed, would result in boat traffic that would exceed the capacity limit set forth by the policy. Entities proposing such activities must ensure that collectively, their proposals stay within the additional 274-boat limit allowed for in the policy.

During the public comment period, the Corps received 86 agencies, individuals and/or group comments along with petitions signed by more than 1,600 persons. The majority of concern focused on a proposed marina by the City of Little Elm at Cottonwood Park and a frisbee golf course, parking lot, hike/bike trail and hotel proposed by the City of Lewisville in Lewisville Lake Park. As with any activity that raises significant public interest, additional environmental documentation could be necessary and/or require further public involvement in the proposal.

The issue of the presence of Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE), a gasoline additive, in the waters of Lewisville Lake was also addressed as a concern. The Corps will continue to take its lead from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission and the local water supply providers as additional information on the effects of MTBE become available.